Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 118013 ORIGIN EUR-12

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CY, US

SUBJECT: CYPRIOT AMBASSADOR'S CALL ON ACTING SECRETARY

- 1. IN COURSE OF BRIEF INTRODUCTORY COURTESY CALL BY CYPRUS AMBASSADOR DIMITRIOU MAY 16, ACTING SECRETARY THANKED DIMITRIOU FOR CONTINUING GOC EFFORTS IN DAVIES CASE AND NOTED WE WERE FOLLOWING CLOSELY PROGRESS OF CURRENT TRIAL.
- 2. IN RESPONSE TO ACTING SECRETARY'S INQUIRY RE PRESIDENT MAKARIOS' HEALTH, DIMITRIOU SAID RECOVERY WAS PROGRESSING SATISFACTORILY AND THAT MAKARIOS PLANS ATTEND JUNE COMMONWEALTH CONFERENCE IN LONDON.
- 3. DIMITRIOU MADE STANDARD PRESENTATION REGARDING WILLING-CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 118013

NESS OF CYPRIOT GOVERNMENT TO NEGOTIATE, AND DIFFICULTY OF ACHIEVING MEANINGFUL PROGRESS IN FACE OF TURKISH INTRANSIGENCE. ACTING SECRETARY INDICATED WE REALIZE GAP IS WIDE BUT THOUGHT THAT MAY MEETINGS IN NICOSIA COULD BE USED TO EXPLOREANDPROBE POSITIONS AND THUS LAY BASIS FOR REAL PROGRESS AFTER TURKISH ELECTIONS. DIMITRIOU INDICATED GOC ALSO AWAITING TURKISH ELECTION RESULTS AND THAT IF

TURKS WERE ABLE TO FORM STRONG NATIONAL GOVERNMENT THIS WOULD "DO AWAY WITH ONE MORE PRETEXT" WHICH HAS BLOCKED

PROGRESS IN NEGOTIATIONS THUS FAR. ACTING SECRETARY SAID THAT POSITIONS TABLED IN VIENNA, WHILE NEEDING MORE WORK, SEEMED TO CONSTITUTE A BASIS FOR DISCUSSION. IMPORTANT THING WAS TO ENGAGE IN POINT-BY-POINT DISCUSSION, RATHER THAN SIMPLY REJECTING OTHER SIDE'S PROPOSALS OUT OF HAND, AS HAD OCCURRED IN PAST.

4. DIMITRIOU ALSO INQUIRED REGARDING CLARK CLIFFORD'S PLANS FOR CONTINUED INVOLVEMENT IN CYPRUS QUESTION AND SAID HE HAD "HEARD RUMOR THAT DEMIREL TOLD THE PRESIDENT, IN LONDON, THAT TURKS WERE NOT ANXIOUS FOR ANOTHER CLIFFORD MISSION ANY TIME SOON." ACTING SECRETARY INDICATED CLIFFORD HAD PARTICIPATED IN PRESIDENT'S MEETING WITH DEMIREL IN LONDON AND HAD MET SEPARATELY WITH DEMIREL AND CARAMANLIS AS WELL. HE SAID THAT HE WAS UNAWARE OF ANY FIRM CLIFFORD PLANS AT PRESENT, BUT THAT CLIFFORD WOULD STAY FULLY ENGAGED. CHRISTOPHER

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